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<u>PATENT</u> **2-//-03**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: FRIEDLAND et al.

Examiner: Rebecca M. Bachner

Serial No.: 09/307,187

Art Unit: 3623

Filed:

May 7, 1999

For:

COMPUTER IMPLEMENTED RESOURCE ALLOCATION MODEL AND PROCESS TO DYNAMICALLY AND OPTIMALLY SCHEDULE AN

ARBITRARY NUMBER OF RESOURCES SUBJECT TO AN ARBITRARY NUMBER OF CONSTRAINTS IN THE MANAGED CARE, HEALTH CARE

AND/OR PHARMACY INDUSTRY

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Box AF

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Sir:

This is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed November 5, 2002, having a three-month shortened statutory period of response set to expire February 5, 2003. The following remarks are respectfully submitted.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 25 and 26 as indicated in attached Appendix A. Reexamination and reconsideration of the claims, as amended, are respectfully requested. A complete set of claims as amended is attached at Appendix B.

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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FRIEDLAND et al.

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AND/OR PHARMACY INDUSTRY

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D. C. 20231

RECEIVED

FEB 0 6 2003

GROUP 3600

Dear Sir:

TRANSMITTAL

Transmitted herewith is a Reply to the Final Office Action mailed November 5, 2002, having a three-month shortened statutory period of response set to expire February 5, 2003.

- [X] No additional fee is required.
- [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment, or charge fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 which may be required, to Deposit Account No. 08-0219. A duplicate copy of this Transmittal Letter is attached for accounting purposes.

Respectfully submitted, HALE and DORR LLE

Cynthia K. Nicholson Registration No. 36,880

Date: February 4, 2003

1455 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004 Telephone: (202) 942-8585 Facsimile: (202) 942-8484